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CIA PROGRESS REPORTCOPY NO. 2

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Part 2, Section 4

DRAFT: CBH Rewrite for DD/A Comment/Approval
11 December 1951

Covert offices of CIA operate under intricately constructed security screens. Occasionally these screens may even involve the establishment or acquisition of enterprises engaged in overseas trade. And in the operation of these commercial cover organizations CIA becomes enmeshed in business problems uncommon to the experience of most intelligence officers. Here, then is a field in which covert administrative employees are better qualified than intelligence specialists to operate these enterprises and maintain the business facade for cover. And while each project ordinarily entails special administrative treatment, occasionally it is possible to use men, money, and materiel already employed in the same locale. Consequently the task becomes not only a problem of business management but one of coordination within CIA.

The machinery that existed for agency coordination was both inadequate and ineffective. Consequently CIA reorganized and widened the authority of its Covert

Coordinating Committee, a senior body established to

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monitor administrative planning on covert projects.

At the same time there was organized within OPC a

Commercial Division to aid the Assistant Director

of that activity in the management of business

projects associated with his undertakings. Then to

minimize the duplication that had previously taxed

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board it entrusted responsibility for coordination of

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its [REDACTED] needs.

However, improvement in the coordination of these support services should not be permitted to conceal the fact that grave deficiencies still exist. And with the expansion of OPC, the task may become far knottier before further improvement can be claimed.

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